

BURTON LATIMER
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL



ANNUAL REPORT

of the

Medical Officer of Health

For the Year 1948

Urban District of Burton Latimer

Members of the Public Health Committee :

Councillors A. G. Miller, J.P., C.C. (*Chairman*), E. E. Clipson, J.P.,
J. W. Patrick, B. W. Phillips, R. B. Pownall, Mrs. B. Spanton,
O. Tailby, J. L. Underwood.

Public Health Officers of the Local Authority :

Medical Officer of Health :

JOHN TERENCE MURPHY, M.B., B.CH., B.A.O., D.P.H.

Also holds the appointment of Medical Officer of Health to the Urban District Councils of Corby, Desborough, Rothwell, the Rural District Council of Kettering and Assistant Medical Officer of Health and Assistant School Medical Officer to the Northampton County Council.

Sanitary Inspector and Surveyor :

G. C. BORMAN, CERT.R.S.I.

Public Health Department,
75 London Road,
Kettering.
July, 1949.

*To the Chairman and Members of the
Burton Latimer Urban District Council.*

Mr. Chairman, Ladies, and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my annual report on the health and sanitary condition of the Urban District for 1948.

The National Health Service Act which came into operation on 5th July removed from the jurisdiction of the Council the two personal Health services which they carried out, namely, the Treatment of Infectious Diseases and the immunisation of children under 15 years against Diphtheria. The Council is still responsible for preventing the incidence and spread of Infectious Diseases.

During the year the town was connected to the Kettering Corporation Sewage Works thus obviating the use of an obsolete and overloaded sewage disposal works.

The housing progress for 1948 is a matter for self congratulation and it is to be hoped that soon the council will be able to consider unfit houses and those that fall short of the present standard of good housing.

I wish to express thanks to the Chairman and Members of the Public Health Committee for their support throughout the year and also to the Clerk and Sanitary Inspector for their co-operation.

I am,

Your obedient servant,

J. T. MURPHY,

Medical Officer of Health.

SUMMARY OF VITAL STATISTICS

The following is a summary of the principal statistics for the years
1944, 1945, 1946, 1947, 1948.

	1944	1945	1946	1947	1948
Area (acres)	2756	2756	2756	2756	2756
Population (Registrar-General's estimate)	3827	3734	3900	3959	3933
Number of Live Births	75	80	90	77	72
Legitimate	70	75	83	72	69
Illegitimate	5	5	7	5	3
Birthrate per 1,000 population ...	19.59	21.42	23.07	19.44	18.30
Number of Still Births	2	3	2	2	—
Legitimate	2	2	2	2	—
Illegitimate	—	1	—	—	—
Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births	25.97	36.14	21.73	25.32	18.30
Rate per 1,000 population	0.52	0.80	0.51	0.50	—
Number of Deaths	46	50	56	49	40
Death rate per 1,000 population (crude)	12.00	13.39	14.35	12.37	10.10
Total Maternal Deaths	—	—	—	—	—
(a) Puerperal Sepsis	—	—	—	—	—
(b) Other Puerperal Causes ...	—	—	—	—	—
Infantile Mortality rate per 1,000 live births	26.06	12.50	66.66	77.92	41.66
Deaths from all forms of Tuberculosis	4	4	2	—	1
Deaths from Pulmonary Tuberculosis	3	4	2	—	1
Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	4	11	1	8	6
Deaths from Measles (all ages)	—	—	—	—	—
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)	—	—	—	—	—
Deaths from Diarrhoea under two years of age	—	1	—	—	—

BIRTH-RATE, DEATH-RATE, AND ANALYSIS OF MORTALITY DURING THE YEAR, 1948

	Rate per 1,000 Total Population		Annual Death-rate per 1,000 Population								Rate per 1,000 live births	
	Live Births	Still Births	All Causes	Typhoid & Paratyphoid Fever	Small-Pox	Measles	Scarlet Fever	Whooping Cough	Diph- theria	Influenza	Diarr- hea & Enteritis under 2 years	Total Deaths under 1 year
England and Wales	17.9	0.42	10.8	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.02	0.00	0.03	3.3	34
126 County Boroughs and Great Towns, including London	20.0	0.52	11.6	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.02	0.00	0.03	4.5	39
148 Smaller Towns estd. resident popu- lations, 25,000— 50,000 	19.2	0.43	10.7	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.02	0.00	0.04	2.1	32
London 	20.1	0.39	11.6	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.02	0.01	0.02	2.4	31
Burton Latimer Urban District	18.30	—	10.10	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	41.66
The Maternal Mortality rates for England and Wales per 1,000 total births												
The Maternal Mortality rates for Burton Latimer												
			Abortion with Sepsis		Abortion without Sepsis	Puerperal infections		Others	Total			
			0.11		0.05	0.13		0.73	1.12			
			nil		nil	nil		nil	nil			

SECTION A. Statistics and Social Conditions.

Area (acres)	2,756
Registrar-General's estimate of resident population ...	3,933
Number of inhabited houses (end of 1948) according to Rate Books	1,260
Rateable Value	£18,373
Sum represented by Penny Rate	£66

The chief occupations of the inhabitants are as follows—Boot and shoe manufacture, clothing manufacture, cereal food preparation and farming.

Extracts from Vital Statistics for the Year :

LIVE BIRTHS				<i>Total</i>	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>
Legitimate				69	35	34
Illegitimate				3	2	1
				—	—	—
			Totals	72	37	35
				—	—	—

Birth-rate per 1,000 of the estimated population ... 18.30

STILL BIRTHS NIL

DEATHS				<i>Total</i>	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>
				40	20	20

Death-rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population 10.10

Deaths from Puerperal causes—

Puerperal Sepsis	—
Other Puerperal causes	—
Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births	—

Death-rate of infants under one year of age—

All infants per 1,000 live births	41.66
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births ...	43.47
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births ...	nil

Deaths from Measles (all ages) —

Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages) —

Deaths from Diarrhoea (under two years of age) —

Deaths from Cancer (all ages) 6

Deaths.—No comparability factor was issued for 1948.

Births.—The following table shows the birth rate for the year 1948, together with the rate for England and Wales.

LIVE BIRTH RATES, 1948

Burton Latimer	...	...	...	18.30
England and Wales	...	...	...	17.9

Infantile Mortality is the number of deaths in children under one year of age per 1,000 live births. This is an indication of the environmental and social conditions of a community with special reference to housing, overcrowding, and maternity and child welfare.

INFANTILE MORTALITY RATES, 1948

Burton Latimer	...	...	...	41.66
England and Wales	...	...	...	34.0

The causes of death in children under one year with age and sex distribution are given in the following table :—

DEATHS OF INFANTS UNDER ONE YEAR OF AGE

<i>Age</i>	<i>Sex</i>	<i>Cause of Death</i>
8 hours	F.	Prematurity
11 hours	F.	Prematurity
6 months	M.	Death from burns accidentally received by falling on a garden fire.

The registered causes of death were as follows :—

					<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Total</i>
All Causes	...	...	...	...	20	20	40
1 Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
2 Cerebro-spinal Fever	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
3 Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
4 Whooping Cough	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
5 Diphtheria	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
6 Tuberculosis of the respiratory system	...	...	...	...	—	1	1
7 Other forms of Tuberculosis	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
8 Syphilitic Diseases	...	...	...	...	1	—	1
9 Influenza	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
10 Measles	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
11 Acute Poliomyelitis and Polioencephalitis	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
12 Acute Infantile Encephalitis	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
13 Cancer	...	...	...	...	4	2	6
14 Diabetes	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
15 Heart Disease	...	...	...	...	9	9	18
16 Intracranial vascular lesions	...	...	...	...	1	3	4
17 Other circulatory diseases	...	...	...	...	1	1	2

Registered causes of death—*continued*.

					<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Total</i>
18	Bronchitis	...	...	...	—	1	1
19	Pneumonia (all forms)	...	...	...	—	—	—
20	Other respiratory diseases	...	...	...	—	—	—
21	Ulcer of stomach or duodenum	...	...	...	—	—	—
22	Diarrhoea (under two years)	...	...	...	—	—	—
23	Appendicitis	...	...	...	—	—	—
24	Other digestive diseases	...	...	...	1	—	1
25	Nephritis	...	...	...	—	—	—
26	Puerperal causes	...	...	...	—	—	—
27	Premature Birth	...	...	...	—	2	2
28	Congenital debility, malformation, and birth injury				—	—	—
29	Suicide	...	...	...	—	—	—
30	Road traffic accidents	...	...	...	—	—	—
31	Other violent causes	...	...	...	1	—	1
32	All other causes	...	...	...	2	1	3

SECTION B. General Provision of Health Services.

(a) **Laboratory facilities.**—Bacteriological examinations have been carried out by the Emergency Public Health Laboratory at Northampton.

The following specimens were examined :—						1948
Swabs	...	...	...	...	...	1
Blood	...	...	...	...	...	—
Faeces	...	...	...	...	...	3
Urine	...	...	...	...	...	—
Sputum	...	...	...	...	...	—

(b) **Ambulance facilities.**—Infectious cases are removed by the ambulance of the Joint Hospital Board. Non-infectious and accident cases are removed by the Burton Latimer ambulance under the administration of the St. John Ambulance Brigade.

(c) **Nursing in the Home.**— The Burton Latimer Nursing Association, which is affiliated to the County Nursing Association provides the services of a whole-time nurse. Details of the work carried out during 1948 are as follows :—

	<i>Cases Nursed</i>			<i>Total</i>
General	Midwifery	Maternity		<i>Visits</i>
95	13	33		2327

(d) **Treatment Centres and Clinics.**—A County Council Welfare Clinic is held twice monthly. A Medical Officer attends one session each month.

The County Council is the Authority for the Treatment of Tuberculosis and the Tuberculosis Officer attends weekly at the Health Clinic, Market Street, Kettering.

Diphtheria Immunisation.—Free immunisation against Diphtheria was offered to children from one to fifteen years of age.

The number of children who were immunised in 1948 is as follows :

Under 5 years	...	...	...	...	47
5 to 14 years	...	...	...	...	—
Total	...	...	...	...	47

The number of children who have had the full course of immunisation since the beginning of the scheme is as follows :—

Age at 31-12-48	Under 1	1	2	3	4
i.e. Born in year	1948	1947	1946	1945	1944
Number immunised	4	35	34	38	45

Estimated mid-year population 1948, 367

Age at 31-12-48	5 to 9	10 to 14
i.e. Born in year	1939-1943	1934-1938
Number immunised	200	237

Estimated mid-year population 1948, 456

The above figures do not include those children immunised by private arrangement.

The number of children who received a reinforcing injection of Diphtheria prophylactic during the year was 45.

SECTION C. Sanitary Circumstances of the Area.

Water Supply.—The Council's supply at Weekley Waterworks began to fail in July and it was necessary to shut off the supply at night to most of the town during September, October and November. The supply began to return to the Weekley Well towards the end of November, and the supply has been satisfactory since.

Bacteriological examinations of the water have been made periodically. All the samples have been consistently "very satisfactory."

No chemical analyses were made during the year.

As the water is very hard, temporary hardness 32.50 parts per 100,000 and permanent hardness 14.00 parts per 100,000, there is no plumbo-solvent action.

The water from Weekley Well is chlorinated before being pumped to the reservoir at Warkton and the auxiliary supply from Woodford is filtered and chlorinated.

No extension of mains has been carried out during the year.

The number of dwelling houses supplied from the main direct to the houses is 1067 ; 225 houses are supplied by stand pipes in the yards and 62 houses depend on private wells for their water supply.

Sewage Disposal.—The work of connecting the town sewerage system to the new Kettering Corporation Sewage Works was completed during the year, and the whole town, with a few exceptions, is now connected to the sewer.

Sanitary Inspection of the Area.—Routine and other inspections were made during the year.

Three formal notices were issued, two were complied with, in the third case legal proceedings were necessary before the nuisance was abated.

All other nuisances detected were satisfactorily abated without legal proceedings having been taken.

Factories and Workshops.—There are thirteen factories in the district, sixteen inspections were made, three defects were found and remedied relating to sanitary conveniences.

Refuse Collections.—A Karrier Bantam Collector is used for the work. The refuse is collected weekly from every house in the town.

SECTION D. Housing.

There were no cases of overcrowding. 97 new houses were completed and occupied during the year.

SECTION E. Inspection and Supervision of Food.

Milk and Dairies Order.—Regular inspections have been made of the cowsheds and dairies. 25 samples of milk were submitted to the methylene blue test. 19 were good, 1 moderate and 5 bad. (The bad samples were taken during a spell of very hot weather).

Meat and other foods.—All livestock are now killed at the Kettering abattoir. A few pigs are killed on the owners' premises.

The following food was condemned during the year :—

One whole pig carcase badly affected with tuberculosis.

Four small hams and shoulders gone bad after salting.

6 $\frac{3}{4}$ lbs. imported bacon. (maggots).

17 $\frac{1}{2}$ lbs. tinned meat. (blown tins, etc.).

102 tins (average 1lb. size) of fish, vegetables, fruit, etc. (blown or punctured tins).

3 $\frac{1}{2}$ stones herrings. (de-composed in transit).

There is one small shop which serves a few meals to lorry drivers.

There are four fried fish shops and six bakehouses which are regularly inspected.

SECTION F. Infectious Diseases.

All the cases were nursed at home and no deaths occurred. Although the winter months were comparatively mild a high incidence of Pneumonia was noted, especially in children under 10 years of age. The predisposing causes of Pneumonia are exposure, malnutrition, damp, badly ventilated houses and as a sequel to Measles and Whooping Cough.

Tuberculosis

Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis Regulations), 1925. These Regulations empower the Council to prevent persons suffering from tuberculosis to engage in the milk trade. No action was taken during 1948.

Public Health Act, 1925, Section 62, and Public Health Act, 1936, Section 172. No action was taken under this section whereby an infectious case of pulmonary tuberculosis may be compulsorily removed to hospital.

Three new cases of respiratory tuberculosis were notified during the year. One death from respiratory tuberculosis took place during the year.

A table is shown giving the age and sex incidence of Tuberculosis for 1948.

MONTHLY INCIDENCE OF NOTIFIABLE DISEASES (other than Tuberculosis), 1948

Disease	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Total
Scarlet Fever	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	2
Erysipelas	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	2
Measles	5	11	25	18	3	2	—	—	1 67
Whooping Cough	10	1	1	—	—	1	—	1	— 15
Pneumonia	7	—	1	—	4	1	—	—	1 2 18
Totals	22	12	28	18	8	4	4	1 2 2	3 104

AGE INCIDENCE OF NOTIFIABLE DISEASES (other than Tuberculosis), 1948

Disease	-1	1-2	2-3	3-4	4-5	5-10	10-15	15-20	20-25	35-45	45-65	65 & Over	All Ages	Removed to Hospital	Deaths	Age Unknown
Scarlet Fever	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—
Erypsiyelas	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	2	—	—	—
Measles	6	8	12	10	16	14	1	—	—	—	—	—	67	—	—	—
Whooping Cough	2	—	2	5	2	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	15	—	—	—
Pneumonia	—	—	1	2	3	3	1	—	3	4	—	1	18	—	—	—
Totals	8	8	15	18	21	22	2	—	3	5	1	1	104	—	—	—

NEW CASES OF TUBERCULOSIS, 1948.

Age Periods	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	Male	Female	Male	Female
0—	—	—	—	—
1—	—	—	—	—
5—	—	—	—	—
15—	—	1	—	—
25—	1	—	—	—
35—	1	—	—	—
45—	—	1	—	—
55—	—	—	—	—
65—	—	—	—	—
Totals	2	1	—	—

DEATHS FROM TUBERCULOSIS, 1948.

Age Periods	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	Male	Female	Male	Female
0—	—	—	—	—
1—	—	—	—	—
5—	—	—	—	—
15—	—	—	—	—
25—	—	1	—	—
35—	—	—	—	—
45—	—	—	—	—
55—	—	—	—	—
65—	—	—	—	—
Totals	—	1	—	—

HEALTH

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